

Minutes, KARO/ECHO Oct 9, 2017 7:30-8:45pm KCC

Attending: Hal Graboske, Larry Nagel, Wayne Coburn, Texx Woodworth, Don Simon, Marlene Keller, Samuel Starkey, Jon Hammond

General Discussion:

Ham training - questions and concerns were brought up concerning training. Several folks had information about ham trains programs around the Bay Area. Don mentioned Santa Clara has a very good table-top message handling system, beginning with the basics, moving thru Simplex and 12-hour work and then more complex connection with adaptors.

MDARC has 8-week classes at the Concord Community Church on Clayton Rd (Salvation Army). See HYPERLINK "<http://www.mdarc.org/activities/education/Classes>" \t "\_blank" <http://www.mdarc.org/activities/education/Classes>

Benecia has classes. <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/benicia-amateur-radio-club/type:club>

EBARC, which meets the 2nd Friday of the month at the El Sobrante Library, offers classes two times a year at an Adult School in the Richmond Annex. Ken Fowler is competeling a general license class now and has noted that a recent technician class had low attendance indicating there isn't much interest in this at this time. When asked if CERT was able to drum up some folks interested in tech licenses he indicated they could offer a technician class at Alvarado School this winter.

- FRS radio is being considered by some CERT areas for use in intra-Area communication. 15 ECK folks took the September NALCO/Berkeley CERT FRS class - including 5 CERT AC's and two Area Radio reps. Each area needs to consider whether FRS will be of use to them and then we can, if enough are interested, get more folks trained. And if an Area develops FRS for intra-Area use we will need the ham EmComm system to work out how to make an effective connection between the "internal" FRS system and the ECK-wide EmComm ham net.

Outreach and recruiting - this has been a major difficulty for KAROECHO for some years. But with the greatly increased outreach occurring in CERT we are finding some existing hams who are signing up with the CERT Areas and a few others who express interest in getting licenses. So recruiting and training need to become focus areas for KE in the immediate future.

Radio Infrastructure Issues some longstanding issues with equipment, accessibility and locations were brought up. We are finding equipment that had not been known to the hams, and antennas that may be used for reestablishing stations. We need to have ham access to

EC radios. We need to evaluate current station locations. We should start to do mapping to ensure clear lines of communication are available. Lots of issues.

Critical Need for Organizational restructuring. The problems include need for a clear updated mission. A clear organizational structure. Officers to run meetings and fulfill organizational responsibilities. Using Roberts Rules to run meetings. Have a well defined decision making process. All meetings work by agendas. Development of working groups to tackle the key tasks decided upon.

So - next meeting will consist of 2 items

Mission Statement -

several folks have proposed (reasonably consistent) mission statements - we will agree on one at the next meeting.

Organizational structure - we must agree on officers, procedural rules, decision making procedures, possibility of becoming 501 (c) 3. Wayne has agreed, with the groups approval, to bring in a proposal for this set of organizational issues for the group to evaluate, debate and decide on.

Other issues - can be suggested by attending members - but will be dependent on completion of items 1 and 2 above.

Hal Graboske (Marlene Keller emailing for Hal)